Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica, 38 (4): 885 – 890 (Oct. 2013) ISSN 1000-0739

A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *PAMPUS* (PERCIFORMES, STROMATEIDAE) FROM CHINA

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Abstract *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov. is described on the basis of 18 specimens collected from Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan, China. It is similar to *P. punctatissimus* and *P. cinereus* in overall body appearance and having greatly extended anterior rays of anal fin. But this new species can be easily distinguished from *P. punctatissimus* by the shape of mouth (subterminal vs. terminal), different number of total vertebrae (38 vs. 34), different shape and number of gill rakers (8 – 12 vestigial and tubercular gill rakers vs. 10 – 13 long and slender gill rakers). It differs from *P. cinereus* in having higher count of total vertebrae (38 vs. 36), shorter pectoral-fin length (31.5 % – 41.5 % vs. 42.0 % – 47.2 %) and shorter eye diameter (19.4 % – 25.0 % vs. 27.7 % – 30.7 %). This new species usually has golden bronze coloration on dorsal surfaces of body in fresh scaleless specimens.

Key words Taxonomy, *Pampus*, new species, China seas.

1 Introduction

The pomfrets of the family Stromateidae are important commercial species widely distributed in Chinese coastal waters and the Indo-Western Pacific (Liu *et al.*, 2002; Cui *et al.*, 2010). Up to date, this family is represented worldwide by six species belonging to the genus *Pampus*: *P. argenteus* (Euphrasen, 1788), *P. echinogaster* (Basilewsky, 1855), *P. punctatissimus* (Temminck and Schlegel, 1844), *P. cinereus* (Bloch, 1795), *P. chinensis* (Euphrasen, 1788), and *P. minor* Liu and Li, 1998 (Liu and Li, 1998a, 1998b; Liu *et al.*, 2012a, 2012b; Wu *et al.*, 1999; Parin and Piotrovsky, 2004; Liu, 2008; Froese and Pauly, 2012). In spite of a large number of publications, the taxonomic status of the genus *Pampus* is still confusing due to their morphological similarities (Liu *et al.*, 2002; Nakabo, 2002; Dolganov *et al.*, 2007; Cui *et al.*, 2010).

During ongoing revision of *Pampus*, the authors reexamined the collections of pomfret specimens collected from 1950s to May 2012, which are deposited at the Museum of Marine Biology in the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Eighteen specimens of an undescribed species of *Pampus* were found. This new species clearly differs from the congeners in having oval-shaped and robust body, greatly extended anterior rays of anal fin, different numbers of gill rakers and total vertebrae.

2 Materials and Methods

All type specimens of the new species were deposited at the Museum of Marine Biology, Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS).

Methods for counts and measurements generally followed Liu *et al.* (2012a, 2012b). Counts and measurements were made from specimens stored in 70 % ethanol after 10 % formalin preservation. The morphometric data are presented as percentages of standard length (SL) or head length (HL).

3 Taxonomy

***Pampus liuorum* sp. nov.**

(English name: Liu's pomfret)

Stromateoides nozawae Cheng, 1962: 760, fig. 615 (not Ishikawa, 1913); Cheng, 1963: 408, fig. 305 (in part, not Ishikawa, 1913); Yang, 1987: 425, fig. 2216 (in part, not Ishikawa, 1913).

Pampus cinereus Wu, 1985: 433 (in part, not Bloch, 1795); Yamada, 1995: 195, fig. 266 (not Bloch, 1795); Liu *et al.*, 2002: 243 (in part, not Bloch, 1795); Liu *et al.*, 2002b: 236 (in part, not Bloch, 1795); Nakabo, 2002: 962 (not Bloch, 1795).

Holotype IOCAS2012-0485, 208.5 mm SL, 29 Apr. 2012, Zhuhai Fish Market, Guangdong, China.

Paratypes: IOCAS2012-0541, IOCAS2012-0542, IOCAS2012-0543, 3 specimens, 216.0-250.8 mm SL, 9 May 2012, Zhuhai Fish Market, Guangdong, China; IOCAS2012-0484, IOCAS2012-0486, 2 specimens, 185.2 – 189.5 mm SL, 29 Apr. 2012, Zhuhai Fish Market, Guangdong, China; IOCAS2011-17001, IOCAS2011-17002, 2 specimens, 201.0 – 223.2 mm SL, 17 Apr. 2011, Zhuhai Fish Market, Guangdong, China; IOCAS09-01, 230.0 mm SL, 25 Sep., Shenzhen, Guangdong,

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This research was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (31172053, 41276166).

Received 3 Dec. 2012, accepted 14 Oct. 2013.

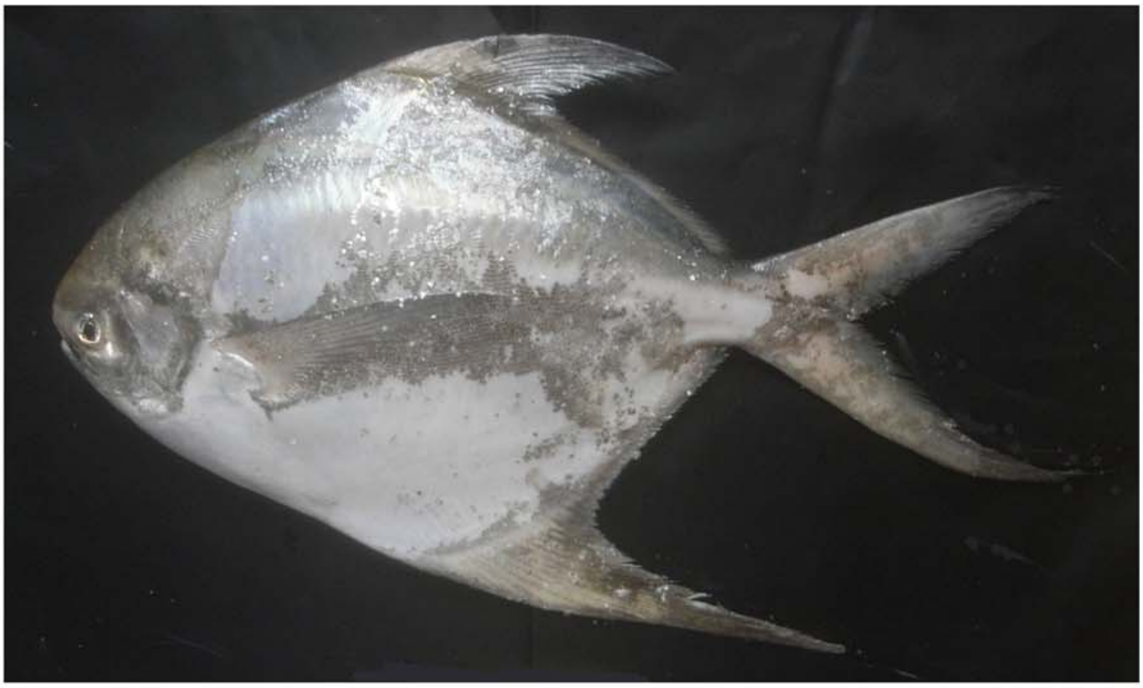


Fig. 1. Holotype of *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov. IOCAS2012-0485, 208.5 mm SL, Zhuhai Fish Market, Guangdong, China.

China; IOCAS98-40, 164.0 mm SL, 17 Mar. 1998, Zhanjiang, Guangdong, China; IOCAS96-014, 180.0 mm SL, Ximan, Fujian, China; IOCAS64-563, 205.0 mm SL, 21 Sep. 1964, Mouth of Pearl River, Guangdong, China; IOCAS58-0207, 194.0 mm SL, 23 Mar. 1958, Sanya, Hainan, China; IOCAS37081, IOCAS37083, IOCAS37086, 3 specimens, 129.5 – 136.6 mm SL, 6 Oct. 1956, Guanghai, Guangdong, China; IOCAS54-0036, IOCAS54-0036 (1), 2 specimens, 196.0 – 197.5 mm SL, 9 Apr. 1954, Naozhou Island, Guangxi, China.

Comparative materials examined. *Pampus punctatissimus*: IOCAS96-04, IOCAS96-05, IOCAS96-13, IOCAS96-1001, IOCAS98-19, IOCAS98-2123, IOCAS97-1076, IOCAS97-1077, IOCAS97-1005, IOCAS97-1006, 10 specimens, 130.0 – 191.0 mm SL. *Pampus cinereus*: IOCAS2011-6015, IOCAS2011-6016, IOCAS2011-6070, IOCAS2011-14001, IOCAS2011-14002, IOCAS2011-14003, IOCAS2011-30016, IOCAS2011-30017, IOCAS2011-41607, IOCAS2011-41609, 10 specimens, 115.5 – 158.5 mm SL. All specimens examined in this study are deposited at the Museum of Marine Biology, Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS).

Diagnosis. *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov. is distinguished from the congeners in having the following combination of characters: body very firm and robust, oblong and oval-shaped; dorsal fin rays 37 – 41; anal fin rays 36 – 40; anterior rays of dorsal and anal fins extended and produced distinct falcate lobes, preceded by 4 to 9 small blade-like spines embedded in skin and not obvious in larger specimens; anterior rays of anal fin greatly extended, reaching beyond the vertical of caudal peduncle; gill rakers vestigial with 8 – 12 minute tubercular-like spinules; total vertebrae 38, including 16 precaudal vertebrae and 22 caudal vertebrae; well-developed network of longitudinal sensory canals on head and nape, posterior end of the branch above lateral line extending over the vertical of origin of pectoral fin base; having golden bronze or yellowish blue coloration on dorsal surfaces of head and body in fresh scaleless specimens.

Description. Counts and proportional measurements of 18 type specimens and comparative materials are given in Table 1.

D. vii – ix, 37 – 41; A. iv – vi, 36 – 40; P. 22 – 24; C. 24 – 26. Gr. 2 – 3 + 6 – 9 = 8 – 12; total vertebrae 16 + 22 = 38.

As percentages of standard length. Maximum body depth 61.3% – 65.9%, head length 22.0% – 25.3%, dorsal fin length 29.6% – 41.7%, anal fin length 48.7% – 66.7%, pectoral fin length 31.5% – 41.5%, caudal fin length 40.2% – 45.3%, predorsal distance 49.5% – 55.7%, preanal distance 50.5% – 55.5%, length of dorsal fin base 48.3% – 53.5%, length of anal fin base 49.1% – 56.0%, caudal peduncle length 9.1% – 12.0%, caudal peduncle depth 10.2% – 11.9%.

As percentages of head length. Snout length 22.4% – 27.5%, interorbital distance 45.0% – 49.8%, eye diameter 19.4% – 25.0%, length of upper jaw 21.3% – 29.5%.

Body compressed, oval-shaped, robust and larger

Table 1. Comparative counts and proportional measurements of *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov., *P. punctatissimus* and *P. cinereus*.

	P. liuorum sp. nov.		*P. punctatissimus* (*n* = 10)	*P. cinereus* (*n* = 10)
	Holotype	Paratypes (*n* = 17)		
Counts				
Dorsal fin ray	ix, 39	vii-ix, 37-41	vi-ix, 38-42	viii-x, 37-41
Anal fin ray	v, 37	iv-vi, 36-40	v-vii, 34-42	v-vii, 36-41
Pectoral fin ray	22	22-24	22-24	20-22
Caudal fin rays	24	24-26	22-24	22-24
Gill rakers (upper + lower = total)	2 + 9 = 11	2-3 + 6-9 = 8-12	2-3 + 8-10 = 10-13	1-2 + 6-8 = 7-10
Precaudal vertebrae	16	16	15	15
Caudal vertebrae	22	22	19	21
Total vertebrae	38	38	34	36
Measurements				
Standard length (mm)	208.5	129.5-230.0	130.0-191.0	115.5-158.5
As percentages of SL				
Maximum body depth	63.8	61.3-65.9	58.5-68.5	61.3-68.1
Dorsal-fin length	40.2	29.6-41.7	31.9-38.4	33.5-43.8
Anal – fin length	64.4	48.7-66.7	40.3-50.8	48.4-59.9
Pectoral-fin length	40.0	31.5-41.5	30.6-38.1	42.0-47.2
Caudal-fin length	43.2	40.2-45.3	38.7-47.3	43.3-49.8
Predorsal distance	53.7	49.5-55.7	52.2-59.9	51.3-59.7
Preanal distance	53.5	50.5-55.5	53.0-56.9	46.2-55.8
Length of dorsal-fin base	50.8	48.3-53.5	48.1-57.4	49.8-53.6
Length of anal-fin base	54.0	49.1-56.0	46.3-54.5	48.4-55.9
Caudal-peduncle length	12.2	9.1-12.0	10.0-11.7	9.4-10.1
Caudal peduncle depth	11.1	10.2-11.9	9.2-11.5	10.6-11.6
Head length	22.2	22.0-25.3	22.5-28.3	24.2-27.7
As percentages of HL				
Snout length	23.8	22.4-27.5	23.0-29.4	20.6-23.2
Interorbital distance	47.6	45.0-49.8	41.2-48.1	42.1-47.0
Eye diameter	22.5	19.4-25.0	20.8-25.0	27.7-30.7
Length of upper jaw	22.7	21.3-29.5	25.4-30.2	27.6-29.3

in size (maximum standard length in excess of 250 mm). Head compressed, its dorsal profile strongly keeled. Snout blunt. Eye small, its diameter less than snout length. Mouth small, subterminal; mouth slit curved downward posteriorly, reaching beyond anterior margin of eyes. Premaxilla is nonprotrusile; maxilla immovable, covered by scales. Nostrils larger, the anterior one is round, the posterior one in form of long slit; both nostrils located on the top of the snout at the level of upper edge of eyes. Teeth on the jaws minute, in a single raw, squeezed from the sides; teeth absent on the vomer and palatinum. There are no teeth on entopterygoideum and metapterygoideum. In the pharyngeal sacs, there are papillae in both halves. Opercular and preopercular smooth at the edge. Branchiostegal membrane fused with isthmus; gill slit short, its lower margin at the same level with bottom of pectoral fin base; gill rakers vestigial and tubercular, with 8 – 12 on first gill arch. Branchiostegal rays 6; no false gills. Dorsal rays 37 – 41; anal rays 36 – 40; originating behind pectoral fin bases, anterior rays of dorsal and anal fins extended, their posterior margins deeply indented and produced distinct falcate lobes, preceded by 7 – 9 and 4 – 6 short blade-like spines with pointed ends respectively, and embedded in skin in adults; anterior lobe of anal fin greatly extending, reaching beyond the vertical of caudal peduncle. Pectoral fins moderately long, with 22 – 24 rays. Caudal fin long, with 24 – 26 rays, deeply forked, lower lobe slightly extended. Pelvic fins absent.

Scales very small, cycloid, and deciduous, extending onto bases of all fins. Head and nape with well-developed network of sensory canals, posterior end extending over the vertical of pectoral fin base. Lateral line high, following dorsal profile to caudal peduncle. Total vertebrae 38, including 16 precaudal vertebrae and 22 caudal vertebrae.

Color of fresh specimens. Head dark grey; dorsal and lateral surface of body silvery grey, golden bronze or yellowish blue on back, fading to silver grey on ventral sides. Dorsal fin dusky grey with darker margin posteriorly; anal and caudal fins greyish yellow with darker margin posteriorly; pectoral fins dark grey.

Color of preserved specimens. Dorsal and lateral surfaces of head and body brownish grey, fading to pale brown on ventral sides. All fins brownish with dusky margin posteriorly.

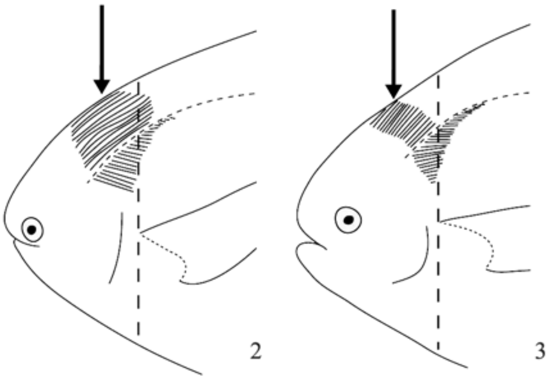
Distribution. *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov. is known in the Eastern and Southern Coasts of China Seas. It is probably widely distributed from Southern Japan to the South China Sea as well as Indian Ocean (Day, 1958; Yamada, 1995; Nakabo, 2000, 2002; Shao, 2012).

Etymology. The new species, *Pampus liuorum* is named after Prof. LIU J-Y's family to recognize Prof. LIU Rui-Yu, the former director of the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, for his outstanding contributions to the studies of marine biodiversity in China.

4 Discussion

Pampus liuorum sp. nov. resembles *P. punctatissimus* and *P. cinereus* in having greatly extended anterior rays of anal fin. Therefore, we have tentatively recognized them as "*Pampus punctatissimus* complex" because this diagnostic character is identical to these three species. However, this new species can be easily distinguished from *P. punctatissimus* by the shape of mouth (subterminal vs. terminal, Figs 2 – 3), different numbers of total vertebrae (38 vs. 34). In addition, the area of wavy sensory canals on nape is larger and extends over the vertical of pectoral fin base in *P. liuorum* (Fig. 2), but it is smaller and almost reaches the vertical of pectoral fin base in *P. punctatissimus* (Fig. 3). Furthermore, the gill rakers in *P. liuorum* sp. nov. are vestigial with 8 – 12, minute tubercular-like spinules (less than 1 mm, Fig. 4) on the first gill arch, but there are 10 – 13 longer and slender gill rakers (more than 2 mm, Fig. 5) in the latter.

In overall body appearance, *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov. is most similar to *P. cinereus*. For comparison these two species, it could not be done until the identity of *P. cinereus* has been confirmed owing to their being confused by some previous Japanese and Chinese ichthyologists (Deng *et al.*, 1981; Yang, 1987; Yamada, 1995; Nakabo, 2000, 2002; Liu *et al.*, 2002).



Figs 2 – 3. Heads of *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov. 2. IOCAS2012-0485, 208.5 mm SL, holotype. 3. *P. punctatissimus* IOCAS1005, 162.5 mm SL. Arrows indicate the areas of wavy ridges of sensory canals on nape. Dotted lines indicate the vertical of the origin of pectoral fin base.

Pampus cinereus was originally described by Bloch (1795) as *Stromateus cinereus* based on only one dry specimen with unknown type locality, which was proved to be lost (Liu *et al.*, 2012b). Moreover, the original description in Bloch (1795) is brief, and does not mention some critical diagnostic characters used presently to discriminate *Pampus* species. With the lost of holotype, the absence of type locality, the lack of critical information in the original description, the identity of this species is quite confused. For this reason, the authors recently clarified this species by designating a neotype (Liu *et al.*, 2012b, Fig. 7).

Pampus liuorum sp. nov. resembles *P. cinereus* in having a subterminal mouth, a similar shape and close range of number of gill rakers (Figs 4, 6) and a larger area of wavy sensory canals on nape. But *P. liuorum* is clearly distinguished from the latter by having more count of total vertebrae (38 vs. 36), shorter pectoral-fin length (31.5% – 41.5% vs. 42.0% – 47.2% in SL) and shorter eye diameter (19.4% – 25.0% vs. 27.7% – 30.7% in HL).

A key for seven nominal species of *Pampus*.

1. Posterior margins of dorsal and anal fins not deeply indented; no blade-like spines before dorsal and anal fins; caudal fin not deeply forked, lobes equal in length ……… ……………………………………………… ***Pampus chinensis***
   Posterior margins of dorsal and anal fins deeply indented, anterior rays of fins with distinct falcate lobes; short, blade-like spines inserted before dorsal and anal fins (embedded in skin in large specimens); caudal fin deeply forked, lower lobe usually longer than upper one ……………………… 2
2. Anterior lobe of anal fin not greatly extending, distal margin not reaching beyond the vertical of caudal peduncle …… 3

Anterior lobe of anal fin greatly extending, distal margin reaching beyond the vertical of caudal peduncle ··········· 5

3. Maximum standard length less than 150 mm; vertebrae 30 ·· ***Pampus minor***

Maximum standard length more than 150 mm; vertebrae more than 30 ··· 4

4. Body depth usually less than 60 % of standard length; predorsal length usually less than 50 % of standard length; vertebrae 40 ································· ***Pampus argenteus***

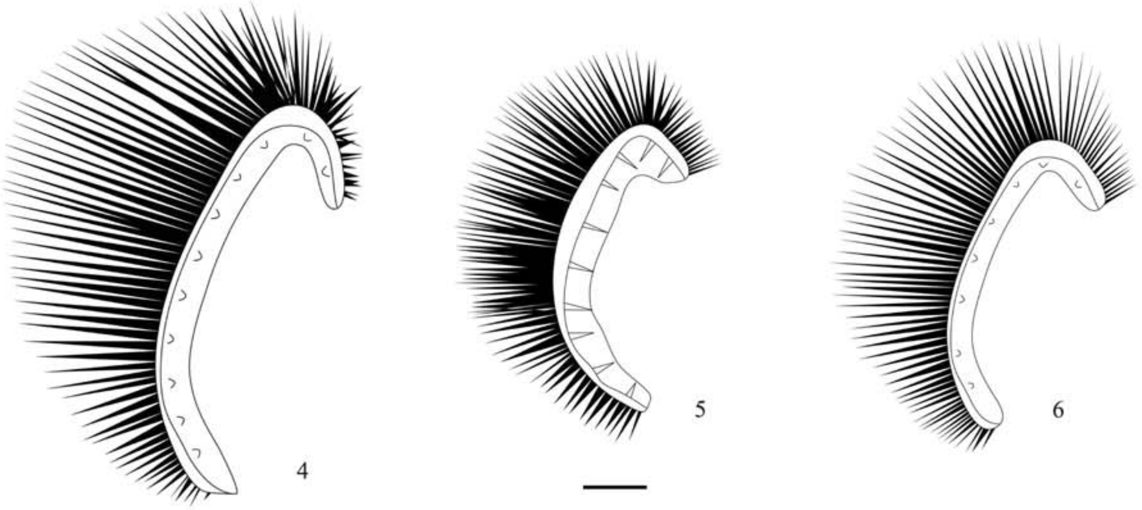
Body depth usually more than 60 % of standard length; predorsal length usually more than 50 % of standard length; vertebrae 40 – 41 ························ ***Pampus echinogaster***

5. Mouth terminal; gill rakers long and slender; vertebrae 34 ··· ***Pampus punctatissimus***

Mouth subterminal; gill rakers vestigial and tubercular-like; vertebrae more than 34 ·· 6

6. Pectoral fin very long, 42.0 % – 47.2 % of standard length; vertebrae 36 ···································· ***Pampus cinereus***

Pectoral fin moderate long, 31.5 % – 41.5 % of standard length; vertebrae 38 ··········· ***Pampus liuorum* sp. nov.**



Figs 4 – 6. Gill rakers on first gill arch of *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov. 4. IOCAS2012-0485, 208.5 mm SL, holotype. 5. *P. punctatissimus* IOCAS1006, 185.5 mm SL. 6. *P. cinereus*, IOCAS41607, 145.0 mm SL, neotype. Scale bars = 4 mm.

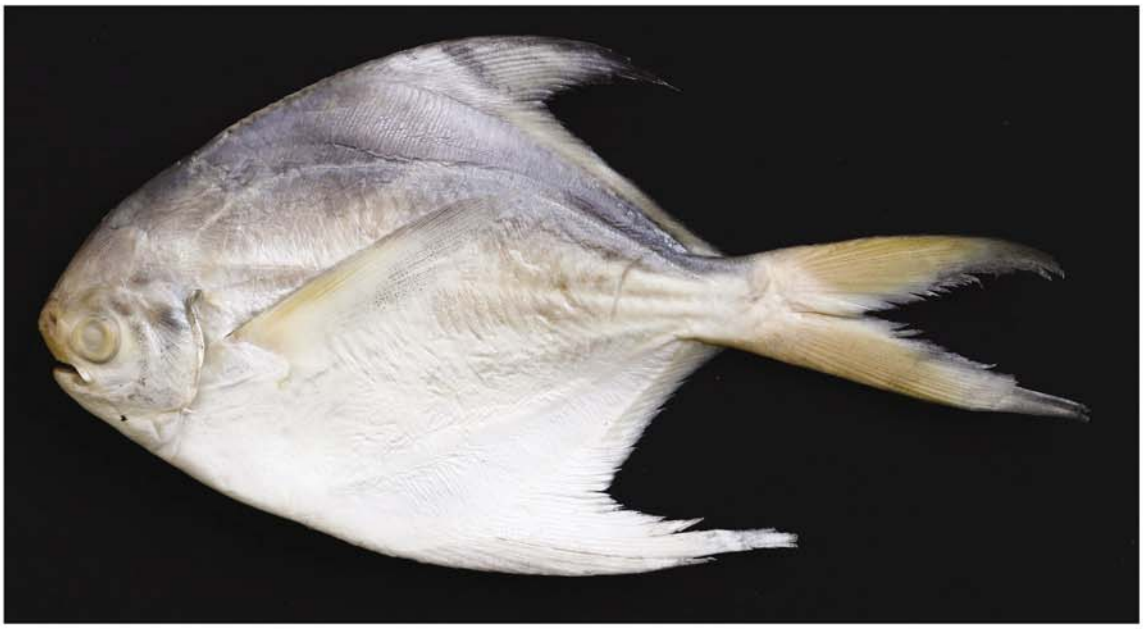


Fig. 7. Neotype of *Pampus cinereus*, IOCAS41607, 145.0 mm SL, Zhuhai Fish Market, Guangdong, China.

Acknowledgements The authors are very grateful to Dr. SHEN Shih-Chieh, National Taiwan University, for his critical reading of the manuscript and providing some literatures, and thank to Ms. SONG Ying-Chun for her translation of Bloch's article into Chinese and Dr. NING Ping for providing the pictures.

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中国鲳属鱼类一新种（鲈形目，鲳科）

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摘 要 描述了分布于中国东南沿海的鲳科鲳属鱼类1新种，刘氏鲳 *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov.。与鲳属其它已知种比较，刘氏鲳体为长椭圆形，个体大而强壮；背鳍具37～41鳍条；臀鳍具36～40鳍条，前部鳍条延长超过尾柄；鳃耙退化，第1鳃弓上具8～12结节状鳃耙；脊椎骨38个；新鲜标本体为银灰色并带金黄色或铜蓝色金属光泽。

刘氏鲳，新种 *Pampus liuorum* sp. nov.（图1～6）

鉴别特征 体长椭圆形；背鳍37～41；臀鳍36～40，前部鳍条延长超过尾柄；背鳍和臀鳍前分别具4～9个小棘；鳃耙退化，第1鳃弓上具8～12结节状鳃耙；脊椎骨38个；新鲜标本体为银灰色并带金黄色或铜蓝色金属光泽。

正模标本 IOCAS2012-0485，体长208.5 mm，于2012年4月29日采集于广东省珠海市香洲鱼市场。模式标本保存于中国科学院海洋研究所海洋生物标本馆。

词源：新种种名源自中国科学院海洋研究所前所长、中国著名海洋生物学家刘瑞玉先生的姓氏，以纪念他对中国海洋生物多样性研究的贡献。

关键词 分类，鲳属，新种，中国沿海.

中图分类号 Q959.483